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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/087,112	03/01/2002	Fuqiang Jin	PHA 2001US 08841.105031	6704

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KING & SPALDING
191 PEACHTREE STREET, N.E.
ATLANTA, GA 30303-1763

EXAMINER

MCKENZIE, THOMAS C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1624

DATE MAILED: 07/15/2003

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/087,112	JIN ET AL.
	Examiner Thomas McKenzie Ph.D.	Art Unit 1624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2002.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-59 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 1-59 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some *
 - c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to an application filed on 3/1/02. There are fifty-nine claims pending. Claims 25-28 and 47-50 are compound claims. Claims 1-24, 29-46, and 51-59 are synthesis claims. The application concerns some synthesis of the anti-viral drug D4FC.

Election/Restrictions

2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C.

121:

- I. Claims 1-46, drawn to two different processes for making cytosine alcohol (IV) and two different process of making cytosine ester (III), intermediates, and final products of these processes, classified in class 544, subclass 317.
- II. Claims 54-56 and 59, and parts of 51-53, 57, and 58, drawn to a third synthesis of cytosine compounds, classified in class 544, subclass 317.
- III. Claims parts of 51-53, 57, and 58, drawn to a synthesis of uracil compounds, classified in class 544, subclass 310.
- IV. Claims parts of 51, 53, 57, and 58, drawn to a synthesis of all other pyrimidine compounds not included in Groups II and III, classified in class 544, subclass 298, among others.
- V. Claims parts of 51, 53, 57, and 58, drawn to a synthesis of purine compounds, classified in class 544, subclass 264, among others.

VI. Claims 47-50, drawn to uracil intermediates for one of the processes of Group I, classified in class 544, subclass 318.

3. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons: inventions I and III-VI have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, thus the patent search required for Group I is not co-extensive with that required for Groups III-VI. The basic names of these core heterocyclic compounds differ, thus the literature search for these various species will be divergent. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Should Applicants traverse the restriction requirement on the grounds that the different core rings are not patentably distinguishable, Applicants should identify such evidence now of record or submit any such evidence that shows the groups to be obvious variants. Such evidence may be used in a rejection under 35 USC 103(a) if the Examiner finds any of the Groups unpatentable over the prior art.

4. Inventions I and II, although classified together employ different starting materials, different reagents, and use a different key bond-forming reaction. These would raise different questions of enablement. Additionally the two inventions are

patentably distinct in that a reference against Group I would not be a reference against group II and vice versa.

5. Inventions VI and I are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product (MPEP § 806.04(b), 3rd paragraph), and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.04(h)). In the instant case, the intermediate products of group VI are deemed to be useful as antiviral agents themselves or as synthetic intermediates to make uracil anti-viral agents distinct fro the cytosine antiviral agents of Group I. The inventions are deemed patentably distinct since there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants and because the Groups are differently classified. Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions anticipated by the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

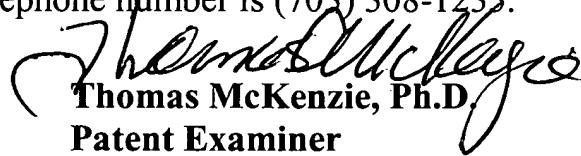
6. A telephone call was made to Hoang Vo on 7/8/03 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement is traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

7. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Conclusion

8. Please direct any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner to Thomas C McKenzie, Ph. D. whose telephone number is (703) 308-9806. The FAX number for before final amendments is (703) 872-9306. The Examiner is available from 8:30 to 5:30, Monday through Friday. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, you can reach the Examiner's supervisor, Mukund Shah at (703) 308-4716. Please direct general inquiries or any inquiry relating to the status of this application to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.


Thomas McKenzie, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1624

TCMcK
July 13, 2003

